Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

Purple-producing Bacteria.[1]— The Purpurbacteria make an interesting group with certain characteristics differing from the majority of these plants. Many bacteria, in fact most of them, grow best in the absence of light, but the group of the Purpurbacteria grow best or as well in its presence. Most pigment-producing bacteria show color production best or only in the free access of oxygen — the group under consideration have the opposite characteristic that they produce their color best or only in the absence or in a diminished supply of oxygen. The color of most bacteria is outside of the cell, but with this group it is in the bacterial cell for the most part.

The author has brought together the known facts in regard to this group, has added some new methods of cultivation, and has contributed descriptions of a number of new varieties isolated by himself. He has furthermore studied more fully the action of light and other conditions on their growth and pigment-producing powers, so that the physiological characteristics of the group are clearly presented in detail. The plates include two of photomicrographs of some of the new varieties described in the text, a presentation of the appearance of bacteriopurpurin crystals from one of them, the color scheme of bacteriochlorin and bacteriopurpurin — the first in alcohol and the second in bisulphuret of carbon — and a number of absorption spectra of the pigments from different members of the group. The book is an interesting and important contribution to the study of the subject.

H. C. Ernst.

GEOLOGY

Rate of Recession of Niagara Falls.— Bulletin 306 of the United States Geological Survey, which has recently been issued,[2] is of much interest to the layman as well as to the student of geology. G. K. Gilbert traces the early development of the ideas that the falls are

---

[1] Die Purpurbakterien nach neuen untersuchungen. Eine mikrobiologische studie von Prof. Dr. Hans Molisch: Direktor des pflanzenphysiologischen institutes der K. K. Deutschen Universität in Prag. Mit 4 tafeln. Jena, Verlag von Gustav Fischer. 1907. pp. vii, 95, Octavo.

[2] Gilbert, W. K. and Hall, W. C. Rate of Recession of Niagara Falls (by G. K. Gilbert) accompanied by a report on the survey of the crest (by W. Carvel Hall). *Bull. U. S. Geol. Sur.* No. 306, 1907. pp. 1–31, 11 plates, 8 figures.